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Andrew Kisliakov

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NEW YORK, NY 10112

EXAMINER

LE, MIRANDA

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2167

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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3 MONTHS

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PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/748,334

Applicant(s)

ANDREW KISLIAKOV

Examiner

Miranda Le

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 November 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,7-23,28-33,37,38,40 and 41 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,7-23,28-33 and 37-38, 40-41 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____

- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. This communication is responsive to Amendment, filed 11/06/2006.
2. Claims 1, 2, 7-23, 28-33, 37, 38, 40 and 41 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 22, 37, 38, 40, 41 are independent claims. In the Amendment, claims 6, 27, 34-36, 39, 42 have been cancelled, and claims 1-2, 7-15, 17-23, 28-33, 37, 38, 40, 41 have been amended. This action is made Final.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

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4. Claims 1, 2, 7-9, 12-14, 16, 22, 23, 28-30, 37, 38, 40, 41 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Konishi et al. (US Pub. No. 20020003576), in view of Lundin et al. (US Pub No. 20020093439).

As to claims 1, 37, 40, Konishi teaches a method of storing data, said method comprising the steps of:

storing data, as one or more data samples (*i.e. frame A1, B1, C1 in Fig. 10B*), in a media file (*i.e. video files*) configured for use by a media player application in playing the data samples (*i.e. Since the information processing device can treat the video camera apparatus as a storage device, motion video files between the information processing device and the video camera apparatus can be easily exchanged, [0022]*); and

storing (*i.e. record the index image on the recording medium, [0021]*), an index file (*i.e. INDEX FILE, Fig. 24*) associated with the media file (*i.e. VIDEO FILE, Fig. 24*), information for instructing the media player application where to find each of the data samples in the media file (*i.e. The contents of each motion video file on the recording medium can be easily estimated from its index image, [0021]*) wherein the media file further comprises additional information (*i.e. time-stamp TS1, TS2, TS3, Fig. 10B*) interspersed throughout the media file (*i.e. a time stamp representing the real time is added for each encoded frame to a bit stream obtained by the MPEG4 encoder 201, [0100]*), wherein the additional information comprises at least a timestamp (*i.e. the time stamp value of each frame added to the compression-encoded motion video signal recorded as the motion video file, [0019]*) indicating a capture time (*i.e. Captured images, [0100]*) of an associated data sample (*i.e. a time stamp representing the real time is added for each encoded frame to a bit stream obtained by the MPEG4 encoder 201, [0100]*), wherein the

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additional information of the media file is used in reconstructing the index file *(i.e. a time stamp representing the real time is added for each encoded frame to a bit stream obtained by the MPEG4 encoder 201. If the encoded file is directly decoded and reconstructed, an image is undesirably reproduced using a time taken for actual video shooting, [0100])*.

Konishi does not specifically teach the additional information of the media file is used in reconstructing the index file upon corruption of the index file.

Lundin teaches the additional information of the media file is used in reconstructing the index file *(i.e. Building a "Super-Index" for Correction Table Indexing, [0143])* upon corruption of the index file *(i.e. The correction calculator 465 computes table entries (e.g., the values of $S_{sub.i}$) for the correction table 350 using the digital output signal $x(k)$ along with the calculated (k) from the FIR filter 455, [0049])*.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill of the art having the teaching of Konishi and Lundin at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Konishi to include the additional information of the media file is used in reconstructing the index file upon corruption of the index file as taught by Lundin. One of ordinary skill in the art would be motivated to make this combination in order to reconstruct the analog input signal in the digital domain in view of Lundin, as doing so would give the added benefit of having at least a portion of a current sample, at least portion(s) of one or more previous and/or subsequent sample(s) used to build (e.g., by bit concatenation) an index for addressing a correction table memory as taught by Lundin *([0010])*.

As to claims 22, 38, 41, Konishi teaches a method of storing video and associated text data, said method comprising the steps of:

storing the video and associated text data (*i.e. The ASF file format is used to provide multimedia data as streaming data via a network, and can include not only videos but also speech and texts in the same ASF file data, [0071]*) as one or more data samples (*i.e. frame A1, B1, C1 in Fig. 10B*), in a media file in accordance with a first file format (*i.e. VIDEO FILE, Fig. 24*), the media file being configured for use by a media player application in playing the video data (*i.e. Since the information processing device can treat the video camera apparatus as a storage device, motion video files between the information processing device and the video camera apparatus can be easily exchanged, [0022]*); and

storing (*i.e. record the index image on the recording medium, [0021]*), in an index file (*i.e. INDEX FILE, Fig. 24*) in accordance with a second file format (*i.e. VIDEO FILE, Fig. 24*), information for instructing the media player application where to find each of the one or more data samples in the media file (*i.e. The contents of each motion video file on the recording medium can be easily estimated from its index image, [0021]*); and

adding additional information (*i.e. time-stamp TS1, TS2, TS3, Fig. 10B*) interspersed throughout the media file (*i.e. a time stamp representing the real time is added for each encoded frame to a bit stream obtained by the MPEG4 encoder 201, [0100]*), the media file including the additional information being readable by the media player application corresponding at least to the first file format (*i.e. when the video camera apparatus 11 is connected to the personal computer 13 via a USB interface, the personal computer 13 issues a request of acquiring the device type by a plug-and-play function, [0135]*), the additional information comprises at least a

timestamp for one or more of the data samples (*i.e. the time stamp value of each frame added to the compression-encoded motion video signal recorded as the motion video file, [0019]*), each of the timestamp indicating a capture time (*i.e. Captured images, [0100]*) of an associated data sample (*i.e. a time stamp representing the real time is added for each encoded frame to a bit stream obtained by the MPEG4 encoder 201, [0100]*), wherein the additional information of the media file is used in reconstructing an index file (*i.e. a time stamp representing the real time is added for each encoded frame to a bit stream obtained by the MPEG4 encoder 201. If the encoded file is directly decoded and reconstructed, an image is undesirably reproduced using a time taken for actual video shooting, [0100]*).

Konishi does not fairly teach the additional information of the media file is used in reconstructing the index file upon corruption of the index file.

Lundin teaches the additional information of the media file is used in reconstructing the index file (*i.e. Building a "Super-Index" for Correction Table Indexing, [0143]*) upon corruption of the index file (*i.e. The correction calculator 465 computes table entries (e.g., the values of $S_{sub.i}$) for the correction table 350 using the digital output signal $x(k)$ along with the calculated (k) from the FIR filter 455, [0049]*).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill of the art having the teaching of Konishi and Lundin at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Konishi to include the additional information of the media file is used in reconstructing the index file upon corruption of the index file as taught by Lundin. One of ordinary skill in the art would be motivated to make this combination in order to reconstruct the analog input signal in the digital domain in view of Lundin, as doing so would give the added benefit of having at least a portion

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of a current sample, at least portion(s) of one or more previous and/or subsequent sample(s) used to build (e.g., by bit concatenation) an index for addressing a correction table memory as taught by Lundin ([0010]).

As to claims 2, 23, Lundin teaches the additional information is used exclusively for reconstruction of the index file (*i.e. The correction calculator 465 computes table entries (e.g., the values of $S_{sub.i}$) for the correction table 350 using the digital output signal $x(k)$ along with the calculated (k) from the FIR filter 455, [0049]*).

As to claims 7, 28, Konishi teaches the additional information comprises a resolution of an associated sample (*i.e. The default motion video shooting and recording mode is set to a mode at a lower bit rate than in the use of the PCMCIA card type hard disk drive 122 as a recording medium, e.g., NORMAL as a predetermined resolution in the VIDEO mode, or to the INTERNET mode, [0144]*).

As to claims 8, 29, Konishi teaches the information of the index file comprises frame rate variation information (*i.e. encoding at a target frame rate, [0017]*).

As to claims 9, 30, Konishi teaches the additional information is stored as one or more dedicated samples of the media file (*i.e. exchange of motion video data between the camera and the computer requires dedicated software, [0011]; a motion video encoding section which*

performs compression encoding including intra-frame encoding and inter-frame encoding for a motion video signal input from the solid state image sensor, [0013]).

As per claim 12, Konishi teaches the data is video data (*i.e. VIDEO FILE, Fig. 24*).

As per claim 13, Konishi teaches the data is text data (*i.e. The ASF file format is used to provide multimedia data as streaming data via a network, and can include not only videos but also speech and texts in the same ASF file data, [0071]*).

As per claim 14, Konishi teaches the data is video data and associated text data (*i.e. The ASF file format is used to provide multimedia data as streaming data via a network, and can include not only videos but also speech and texts in the same ASF file data, [0071]*).

As per claim 16, Konishi teaches each video sample is a separate JPEG file (*i.e. The still video compression/decompression section 114 compression-encodes the input video signal in a JPEG format, [0060]*).

5. Claims 15, 33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Konishi et al. (US Pub. No. 20020003576), in view of Lundin et al. (US Pub No. 20020093439), and further in view of Esbensen (US Patent No. 7,124,427).

As to claims 15, 33, Konishi and Lundin do not specifically teach the video and associated text data are captured for security purposes.

However, Esbensen teaches the video and associated text data are captured for security purposes (*i.e. As a result, playback image quality is often very poor and when an incident does occur, investigators cannot get a clear enough image of individuals involved in the incident to make an identification. In response to this problem, the Federal Bureau of Investigation has established a laboratory program whose primary function is to help law enforcement personnel enhance poor quality images from video surveillance systems in order to aid in investigations, col. 1, lines 34-51*).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill of the art having the teaching of Konishi, Lundin and Esbensen at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Konishi and Lundin to include the video and associated text data are captured for security purposes as taught by Esbensen. One of ordinary skill in the art would be motivated to make this combination in order to playback stored incidents in view of Esbensen (*col. 9, lines 16-28*), as doing so would give the added benefit of providing a flexible surveillance system that can capture image data from a number of digital cameras and make that data available to viewers in a variety of different ways as taught by Esbensen (*col. 2, lines 19-30*).

6. Claims 10, 11, 21, 31, 32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Konishi et al. (US Pub. No. 20020003576), in view of Lundin et al. (US Pub No. 20020093439), and further in view of Lin (US Patent No. 6,369,835).

As to claims 10, 31, Konishi and Lundin do not explicitly teach the media file is configured in accordance with the Microsoft AVI file format.

However, Lin teaches the media file is configured in accordance with the Microsoft AVI file format (*i.e. In accordance with still further aspects of the invention, a movie application programming interface (API) such as "QuickTime" and "Video for Windows" may be selected to save the movie data in the movie file. File attributes (e.g., type or extension such as ".qtm", ".mov", ".avi" or "MooV") may be set on the movie file. Also, the type of the file extension attribute may be selected to indicate the format of the movie data in the movie file (col. 3, lines 3-10).*

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill of the art having the teaching of Konishi, Lundin and Lin at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Konishi and Lundin to include the media file is configured in accordance with the Microsoft AVI file format as taught by Lin. One of ordinary skill in the art would be motivated to make this combination in order to select the type of compression method and optimization of the compression method in view of Lin (*col. 2, line 66 to col. 3, line 2*), as doing so would give the added benefit of a method and system for transforming slides for a slide show presentation into movie data and saving the movie data in a movie file for display as a movie by any program capable of playing the movie file as taught by Lin (*col. 1, lines 5-12*).

As to claim 11, 32, Konishi and Lundin do not specifically teach the media file is configured in accordance with the Apple QuickTime file format.

However, Lin teaches the media file is configured in accordance with the Apple QuickTime file format (*i.e. In accordance with still further aspects of the invention, a movie application programming interface (API) such as "QuickTime" and "Video for Windows" may be*

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selected to save the movie data in the movie file. File attributes (e.g., type or extension such as ".qtm", ".mov", ".avi" or "MooV") may be set on the movie file. Also, the type of the file extension attribute may be selected to indicate the format of the movie data in the movie file (col. 3, lines 3-10).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill of the art having the teaching of Konishi, Lundin and Lin at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Konishi and Lundin to include the media file is configured in accordance with the Apple QuickTime file format as taught by Lin. One of ordinary skill in the art would be motivated to make this combination in order to select the type of compression method and optimization of the compression method in view of Lin (*col. 2, line 66 to col. 3, line 2*), as doing so would give the added benefit of transforming slides for a slide show presentation into movie data and saving the movie data in a movie file for display as a movie by any program capable of playing the movie file as taught by Lin (*col. 1, lines 5-12*).

As per claim 21, Konishi and Lundin do not fairly teach the index file contains a track referencing at least the media file.

However, Lin teaches the index file contains a track referencing at least the media file (*i.e. The parameter atom 412 indicates a type, identification, index and data. For example, type=KActionParameter, id=0, index=KFirstParam and data that includes parameter data. A target atom 414 and a sprite target atom 416 are shown included in the action atom 408. However, the target atom 414 and the sprite target atom 416 are usually only included when the action is not to be performed on a default track and sprite (col. 18, lines 35-47).*

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill of the art having the teaching of Konishi, Lundin and Lin at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Konishi and Lundin to include the index file contains a track referencing at least the media file as taught by Lin. One of ordinary skill in the art would be motivated to make this combination in order to display the slide show presentation when the movie file is played in view of Lin (*col. 2, lines 49-59*), as doing so would give the added benefit of transforming slides for a slide show presentation into movie data and saving the movie data in a movie file for display as a movie by any program capable of playing the movie file as taught by Lin (*col. 1, lines 5-12*).

7. Claim 17 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Konishi et al. (US Pub. No. 20020003576), in view of Lundin et al. (US Pub No. 20020093439), and further in view of Yamada et al. (US Patent. No. 6,804,302).

As per claim 17, Konishi and Lundin do not specifically teach a plurality of copies of a corresponding text string are included in each text sample of media file.

Yamada teaches a plurality of copies of a corresponding text string are included in each text sample of media file (*i.e. text memory 103 stores a source of text ... and text decoder 107 decodes a character into frame components, col. 4, lines 46-56*).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill of the art having the teaching of Konishi, Lundin and Yamada at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Konishi and Lundin to include the limitations as taught by Yamada. One of ordinary skill in the art would be motivated to make this combination in order to decode a character into frame components in view of Yamada, as doing so would give the added benefit of providing a

technique of editing a multimedia title which comprises various sources such as motion pictures, still pictures, text data, background still image, graphics, and a scenario describing the source list, presentation method and characteristics of the sources into video signals as taught by Yamada (*col. 1, lines 8-17*).

8. Claims 18, 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Konishi et al. (US Pub. No. 20020003576), in view of Lundin et al. (US Pub No. 20020093439), and Yamada et al. (US Patent. No. 6,804,302), and further in view of Lin (US Patent No. 6,369,835).

As per claim 18, Konishi, Lundin, and Yamada do not fairly teach a first copy of the text string is configured in accordance with the AVI file format.

However, Lin teaches the AVI file format (*i.e. In accordance with still further aspects of the invention, a movie application programming interface (API) such as "QuickTime" and "Video for Windows" may be selected to save the movie data in the movie file. File attributes (e.g., type or extension such as ".qtm", ".mov", ".avi" or "MooV") may be set on the movie file. Also, the type of the file extension attribute may be selected to indicate the format of the movie data in the movie file (col. 3, lines 3-10).*

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill of the art having the teaching of Konishi, Lundin, Yamada, and Lin at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Konishi, Lundin, and Yamada to include the limitations as taught by Lin. One of ordinary skill in the art would be motivated to make this combination in order to select the type of compression method and optimization of the compression method in view of Lin (*col. 2, line 66 to col. 3, line 2*), as doing so would give the added benefit of a method and system for transforming slides for a

slide show presentation into movie data and saving the movie data in a movie file for display as a movie by any program capable of playing the movie file as taught by Lin (*col. 1, lines 5-12*).

As per claim 19, Konishi, Lundin, and Yamada do not specifically teach a second copy of the text string is configured in accordance with the QuickTime file format.

However, Lin teaches the Apple QuickTime file format (*i.e. In accordance with still further aspects of the invention, a movie application programming interface (API) such as "QuickTime" and "Video for Windows" may be selected to save the movie data in the movie file. File attributes (e.g., type or extension such as ".qtm", ".mov", ".avi" or "MooV") may be set on the movie file. Also, the type of the file extension attribute may be selected to indicate the format of the movie data in the movie file (col. 3, lines 3-10).*

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill of the art having the teaching of Konishi, Lundin, Yamada, and Lin at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Konishi, Lundin, and Yamada to include the limitations as taught by Lin. One of ordinary skill in the art would be motivated to make this combination in order to select the type of compression method and optimization of the compression method in view of Lin (*col. 2, line 66 to col. 3, line 2*), as doing so would give the added benefit of transforming slides for a slide show presentation into movie data and saving the movie data in a movie file for display as a movie by any program capable of playing the movie file as taught by Lin (*col. 1, lines 5-12*).

8. Claim 20 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Konishi et al. (US Pub. No. 20020003576), in view of Lundin et al. (US Pub No. 20020093439), and further in view of Boogaard (US Pub. No. 20030033325).

As per claim 20, Konishi and Lundin do not specifically teach the step of inserting one or more empty samples into the media file to compensate for any missed samples.

Boogaard teaches comprising the step of inserting one or more empty samples into the media file to compensate for any missed samples (*i.e. The available empty frame(s) is or are available because the first next normal frame may need the space in the empty frame(s) to store data (bit reservoir), [0101]*).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill of the art having the teaching of Konishi, Lundin and Boogaard at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Konishi and Lundin to include the limitations as taught by Boogaard. One of ordinary skill in the art would be motivated to make this combination in order to avoid possible additional frames for a bit reservoir from being counted in the time coding of the file in view of Boogaard ([0101]), as doing so would give the added benefit of performing a more efficient distribution of unique audio and/or *video* files by combining the invention with the "client as server" principle, which uses (partial) recording of audio and/or *video* at the side of the individual user, while maintaining a method of control of the server as taught by Boogaard ([0029]).

Response to Arguments

9. Applicant's arguments regarding Aksu, Chan, Courtney, Fuller do not teach the features of the amended claims 1, 22, 37, 38, 40, 41 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

9. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Miranda Le whose telephone number is (571) 272-4112. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM.


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John R. Cottingham, can be reached on (571) 272-7079. The fax number to this Art Unit is 571-273-8300.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Miranda Le
October 27, 2004



JOHN COTTINGHAM
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100